



Music development plan summary

The Windmill Primary Federation

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of federation music lead	Keryn Kirk
Name of local music hub	Norfolk Music Hub (https://www.norfolkmusichub.org.uk/site/)

This document is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. It also gives our vision for our students’ musical education. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils’ music education.

Our Vision for Music Education

Music is fundamental to being a human-being. It incorporates expression and creativity whilst developing key life skills such as teamwork and cooperation and, within the Windmill Primary Federation, the subject is one that is valued and embraced for student development, both academically, culturally and socially (the ‘whole child’).

Music is commonly described as “the universal language” and this is because it is central to almost all cultures and religions throughout the world. Music is all around us, not just on the radio, in the concert halls and at festivals but also in all television and films, adverts and even as background music within shops and restaurants. It is literally everywhere!

However, music in education is about so much more than Rock, Pop, Classical RAP etc. Music is about sounds and how they are put together.

Music is something that is valued within the school, not just for its academic value but for its social and cultural benefits too. We aim to promote a lifelong love of music, both as a performer and listener. In classroom lessons, it is about exploring all the types of music, learning to appreciate how they are created and performed as well as experimenting through practical exercises, both on instruments and using technology. In line with the National Curriculum, all our units of work fall into one or more of the following categories: -

- Performing
- Composing
- Listening and Appraising

Singing and listening exercises are an integral part of lessons developing both musical and confidence skills.

Away from the classroom, the Windmill Primary Federation provides an instrumental programme with a range of lessons and subsidies available to our pupils to start their journey as musicians. The Windmill Primary Federation promotes a culture of group playing with a range of instrumental and vocal ensembles within each school, across the federation and in the wider community. This gives clear progression routes for all our pupils to explore and improve their musicianship skills, whether they wish to follow music as a career, or simply want to enjoy it as a hobby.

Music is a unique subject in that it is scientifically proven to assist in so many areas including improved wellbeing, language development, emotional resilience and empathy. It involves



working both independently and collaboratively in groups and this helps develop important life-skills that are transferred into all future careers and pathways. These develop a growth mind-set as well as social skills and self-esteem.

Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

Music is taught as a discreet subject but is also woven through our curriculum through cross-curricular links and enrichment activities. We follow the Charanga Curriculum Scheme. Our Primary Curriculum Progression in Skills and Long-Term Plan is available online at www.charanga.com

It is an expectation that children in Key Stage 1 are taught a whole class music lesson once a week lasting an hour. Over the course of EYFS and Key Stage 1, pupils will explore a variety of musical genres from a range of cultures. They will become familiar with the cultural capital of music, while also making links between their musical learning and their learning in other subject areas. Sequences of learning will build on those taught previously, providing opportunities to consolidate and deepen pupils' skills and knowledge.

As in all areas of our curriculum, we emphasise learning through experience wherever possible, and as such we use Charanga to spark and engage pupils' curiosity by developing their skills in the practical aspects of music and music-making, including singing, playing instruments, improvisation and composition. Through these practical approaches, we also develop our pupils' knowledge and understanding of the theory and history of music, including knowledge of the interrelated dimensions of music, musical notation, key composers and pieces, genres and periods, including the correct use of vocabulary linked to these.

We make explicit connections between these two areas of skill and knowledge throughout music lessons, as well as between music and other areas of the curriculum.

We take advantage of opportunities for the pupils to perform both in and out of school, to peers and to wider audiences. We also offer extracurricular activities and clubs, where possible, to expand pupils' experiences of music in different contexts.

The music curriculum is inclusive. We use different support structures and scaffolding so that it is accessible for all children.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

To supplement our curriculum lessons, we also offer instrumental lessons once pupils move up to Key Stage 2, through highly experienced peripatetic tutors. Instruments are provided with no charge and lessons are available at a cost of just £25 per term for group tuition. Pupil Premium pupils are not disadvantaged as this is subsidised through our Pupil Premium funding allocation.

Students are welcome, and encouraged, to become involved in the wider musical life of the federation through our extra-curricular offering. These currently include:

- Termly Workshops/'Play Days' for Primary students.
- Smaller Ensembles
- iRock



Many of these groups are invited to perform outside of school; including Springwood High School.

Beyond our school group, partnerships with the Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub provide additional opportunities for our pupils to experience the joy of music-making with friends. All pupils are encouraged to continue with their musical activities at home.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

Federation schools participate in concerts and recitals, including collaboration with West Norfolk Academies Trust for events that showcase our schools, alongside others. For all school events the ticket prices are kept low or free of charge in order to make them accessible for all parents and the local community so that they are able to attend and share in our pupils' love of music.

Pupils are also encouraged to engage in community events, such as Young Voices.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years.

We continue to develop music provision for our pupils.
In the coming academic year our main foci will be:

- To engage with parents, inviting them to music workshops to boost their knowledge of the music curriculum.
- To further build relationships with West Norfolk Academies Trust, collaborating in music workshops and events.
- To continue to engage with the Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub and other local community musical organisations such as iRock.
- To make links with Classical Music Rocks.

These will give our students greater access to musical opportunities both as performers and audience members.

Useful Links

Useful Links to the Windmill Primary Federation documents

- Primary Curriculum Map

Useful External Links and Documents

- [Department of Education guide for parents and young people on getting involved in music](#)
- [Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub](#)
- [West Norfolk Music Centre](#) (*opportunities to play together and for lessons*)
- [Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub Ensemble Opportunities](#) (*a 'one-stop' guide to music in Norfolk*)

If there is something you are specifically interested in for your child please ask, we may be able to help.